

Price, Richard

From: Joan McCarthy <joanmc11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:55 PM
To: pstestimony
Cc: Tony.Guglielmo@cga.ct.gov
Subject: Senate bill 1090

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to inform all of you of my strong disapproval for any additional casinos or gambling institutions to be developed in CT. I am against all forms of gambling including the state's lottery games. While teaching, I learned of children's lives that were negatively impacted because a parent spent too much time, and lost too much money gambling. It is very easy to keep betting, believing that the next time s/he will surely win the big prize. Addiction happens without one realizing it. Before a gambler is aware of his/ her mental illness, it has already begun to ruin his/her life and the lives of those he/she loves. It is too great a temptation for those who are struggling to make ends meet, including senior citizens. IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE CITIZENS OF CT YOU WILL DEFEAT SENATE BILL 1090.

If you support it and vote yes, then you must realize that you are partly responsible for the gambling addictions that will develop. Proximity to casinos makes it easier to get caught up in the excitement and hope that you will win, and then all your troubles will disappear. The state doesn't need to create more victims of addictions. You have already created more pain than you can imagine when you allowed the first two casinos to open. Eventually, when gamblers hit bottom, they will need state assistance as a result of their addictive mental illness. Thus, passing this bill is ultimately a set-up for the citizens of CT to have to provide for an increase in welfare costs that will surely happen as an increased number of people have the opportunity to gamble in their own neighborhoods.

What happened to the stated concerns about supporting citizens mental health? Have you forgotten the voices that cried out requesting better treatment services for the mentally ill and the promises that were made after the tragedy in Newton? Promises that Gov. Malloy has already broken by cutting back money for mental health services in his budget.

I URGE YOU TO DEFEAT SENATE BILL1090 AND CREATE HEALTHIER OPPORTUNITIES OF RECREATION FOR ALL OF CT'S CITIZENS TO ENJOY!

Sincerely yours,
Joan S. McCarthy
Vernon, CT

Sent from my iPad